

CLAIMS

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1. A control apparatus for control data for managing one or more contents data and the using condition information stating use conditions of each contents data and for controlling the corresponding contents data based on the using condition information, said apparatus comprising:

means for converting said using condition information stated in a pre-set format into the using condition information of another format having the same contents.

2. A control method for control data for managing one or more contents data and the using condition information stating use conditions of each contents data and for controlling the corresponding contents data based on the using condition information, said method comprising:

a step of converting said using condition information stated in a pre-set format into the using condition information of another format having the same contents.

3. A recording medium having stored therein a control program for control data for managing one or more contents data and the using condition information stating use conditions of each contents data and for controlling the corresponding contents data based on the using condition information,

said control program for said contents data including a processing for converting said using condition information stated in a pre-set format into the using condition information of another format having the same contents.

4. A data processing apparatus comprising:

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one or more application for reproduction for managing one or more contents data and the using condition information stating the using condition of each contents data and for reproducing the contents data based on said using condition information; and

a comprehensive contents management unit for managing the contents data and the using condition information of said contents data;

each application for reproduction or the comprehensive contents management unit converting the contents encryption system used by each application and the format of the using condition information into the contents encryption system used by said comprehensive contents management unit and the format of the using condition information to transfer the contents data and the using condition information from the application for reproduction to said comprehensive contents management unit.

5. The data processing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein each application for reproduction converts the encryption system for contents data transferred to said comprehensive contents management unit from the encryption system used by the application for reproduction to an encryption system used by said comprehensive contents management unit.

6. The data processing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said comprehensive contents management unit converts the encryption system for contents data transferred from each application for reproduction from an encryption system used by the application for reproduction to the encryption system used by the comprehensive

contents management unit; and wherein the comprehensive contents management unit converts the format for the using condition information transferred from each application for reproduction from a format prescribed by the application for reproduction to a format prescribed by the comprehensive contents management unit.

7. The data processing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said comprehensive contents management unit connects to a server over a network by a transfer protocol which is the same as the transfer protocol used between the comprehensive contents management unit and each application for reproduction.

8. A contents management method for managing one or more contents data and the using condition information, stating the using condition of each contents data and for managing one or more application for reproduction, and adapted for reproducing the contents data based on the using condition information, by a comprehensive contents management unit, said method comprising:

transferring the contents data and the using condition information from each application for reproduction to the comprehensive contents management unit using a transfer protocol having a unified format for the contents data encryption system and the using condition information.

9. The contents management method according to claim 8 wherein before transferring the contents data from each application for reproduction to the comprehensive contents management unit, the encryption system for this contents data is converted from an encryption system used by each application for reproduction into a unified

encryption system.

10. The contents management method according to claim 8 wherein said comprehensive contents management unit connects to a server over a network by a transfer protocol which is the same as the transfer protocol used between the comprehensive contents management unit and each application for reproduction. 11.

The contents management method according to claim 8 wherein said comprehensive contents management unit manages the contents data and the using condition information using the unified encryption system and the unified format of the using condition information.

12. A recording medium having stored therein a comprehensive contents management application for managing one or more contents data and the using condition information, stating the using condition of each contents data and for managing one or more application for reproduction, and adapted for reproducing the contents data based on the using condition information, said comprehensive contents management application including

a processing program for transferring the contents data and the using condition information from each application for reproduction using a transfer protocol having a unified format for the contents data encryption system and the using condition information.

13. The recording medium according to claim 12 wherein said comprehensive contents management application converts an encryption system for contents data

transferred from each application for reproduction from an encryption system used by each application for reproduction to an encryption system used by the comprehensive contents management application; and wherein

the format for the using condition information transferred from each application for reproduction from the format prescribed by each application for reproduction to the format prescribed by the comprehensive contents management application.

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION UNDER PCT ARTICLE 19: AMENDED SHEETS (Pages 83/1, 83/2 AND 83/3).

83/1

14. (Added) A data processing apparatus comprising:

a reception interface for receiving first contents data furnished from a first contents server and second contents data furnished from a second contents server;

a comprehensive contents management unit, inclusive of said reception interface, for supervising said first and second contents data and the using condition information stating the using conditions for said first and second contents data; and

a using condition conversion program for converting the format of the using condition information employed by said first contents server into the format of the using condition information employed in said comprehensive contents management unit;

the format of the using condition information of contents used by said second contents server being the same as the format of the using condition information of the contents used by said comprehensive contents management unit; wherein

when transferring said first contents data and the using condition information appended to the first contents data to said comprehensive contents management unit, the format of the using condition information appended to said first contents data is converted into the format of the using condition information used by said comprehensive contents management unit.

15 (Added) The data processing apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said using condition conversion program is executed using said comprehensive contents management unit.

16. (Added) The data processing apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said format of said using condition information is converted on the basis of movement or copying of said first contents data to said contents management unit.

17. (Added) The data processing apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said first contents data is transferred to said comprehensive contents management unit using a transfer protocol having a unified format of the using condition information of contents data.

18. (Added) A recording medium having stored therein a comprehensive contents management software for supervising the first and second contents data and the using condition information stating the using condition of said first and second contents data to supervise the contents data based on said using condition information, comprising:

a reception interface for receiving first contents data furnished from a first contents server and second contents data furnished from a second contents server;

a using condition conversion program for converting the format of the using condition information employed by said first contents server into the format of the using condition information employed in said comprehensive contents management unit;

the format of the using condition information of contents used by said second contents server being the same as the format of the using condition information of the contents used by said comprehensive contents management unit; wherein

when transferring said first contents data and the using condition information

Add 12